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*Mortality statistics.*

During the week there were 23 deaths from the following-named causes: Yellow fever 1, pernicious fever 2, diarrhea (enteritis) 2, pneumonia 2, debility, congenital 3, intermittent fever 4, pulmonary tuberculosis 1, tuberculosis, ulcer 1, gunshot wound 1, septicæmia 1, cachexia 2, unknown 1, gastric fever 1, anemia 1, total, 23. Estimated population, 20,000. Mortality rate, 59.80 per thousand.

There was another death from yellow fever on May 17, 1903.

While all vessels come to the different wharves, their distances from actual habitations is probably beyond that of the usual migration of mosquitoes. The chances of infection of such vessels is, therefore, probably no greater than for those anchored in the stream. During the month of April there were officially reported 4 cases of smallpox.

*Report from Vera Cruz—Abstract of a report by Dr. Narciso del Rio, on the sanitary improvements at Veracruz, Mexico, for the months of February and March, 1903.*

Consul Canada at Vera Cruz reports, May 9, as follows:

The work of inspection chiefly consisted in the examination of tanks, barrels, and other receptacles in use for the storage of supplies of fresh water.

The drainage work in several of the streets in the more southerly part of the city having been completed, these streets have been graded and leveled, but only to their former low grade, and in consequence of this the water from the house drains emptying into the streets has formed pools of mud, and these have to be drained by cutting ditches to carry off the foul matter. This confirms what I have had the honor to inform the authorities on several occasions, that the sanitary improvements now underway being still incomplete the beneficial results expected are not yet apparent, the mountains of soil accumulated in the streets having prevented the flowing off of waste water by its former channels.

Notwithstanding prevailing conditions, the number of cases of yellow fever and paludism has been very few. Tuberculosis has, however, increased to an alarming extent, as noted in the number of cases developed for several months passed. This may be accounted for by the increase in the laboring part of the population engaged in the drainage work and in railroad construction, the unsanitary conditions existing in the tenements, which are insufficiently lighted and ventilated, and the excessive amount of dust consequent upon the tearing up of the streets, many of which are still unpaved, though the drainage work in these has been finished for some time. These are undoubtedly the principal reasons why tuberculosis, a disease now considered as being one of the simplest to avoid and whose most frequent mode of transmission is now understood, has attained such alarming proportions.

The manner in which the street cleaning has been performed shows some improvement, though still leaving much to be desired. Doubtless the drainage work has rendered this a difficult operation, for wherever the work is finished a marked improvement may be seen.